



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

August 17, 2015

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: State Trail Easement Acquisitions
State Line Trail – Gogebic County
Land Transaction Case #20150051

Purchase: 1.40 miles of permanent trail rights - \$28,413.00

Funding Source: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Act 283 of 2012, State Trails Initiative.

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: None (trail easement)

Description: Gogebic County, Wakefield Township, T47N, R45W, Section 23:
as more completely described in the case file.

Sellers: Timothy & Lorraine Makela, Wakefield, Michigan (Easement 1)
Marlene Hongisto, Gladstone, Michigan (Easement 2)
Carole Mattila, Wakefield, Michigan (Easement 3)
Denice Laessig, Wakefield, Michigan (Easement 4)
Dawn Molinero, Port Orchard, Washington (Easement 5)
Mark and Brenda Mattson, Wakefield, Michigan (Easement 6)
Margie Sjoblom, Wakefield, Michigan (Easement 7)

Authority: Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) September 1, 2015, calendar, and is eligible for approval on September 8, 2015.

Management Purpose: The land will be managed as part of the State Line Trail.

Comments: Running along a former Chicago & North Western (C&NW) Railroad corridor, the seven offered, 30-foot wide, recreational trail easements will fill a 1.40 mile-long gap in public ownership on the State Line Trail.

When abandoned in the 1980s, the C&NW railroad corridor in western Gogebic County was not publically acquired at that time. Now, working in cooperation with trail advocates and local governmental representatives, the Department is attempting to stitch the corridor back together in an effort to connect the communities of Wakefield, Bessemer, Ironwood, and the state of Wisconsin to the State Line Trail. When complete, the trail will stretch from Iron Mountain to Ironwood.

Acquisition of these seven recreational trail easements will contribute to achieving Department and Division goals and strategies by providing additional public recreation opportunities.

Engagement: Wakefield Township supports the acquisition of the recreational trail easements, and is represented on the committee of local, state, and federal representatives that meet periodically with Department staff to address regional trail matters.

Recommendation: (1) That the recreational trail easement acquisitions be approved, with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, State Trails Initiative, as contained in Act 283 of 2012.

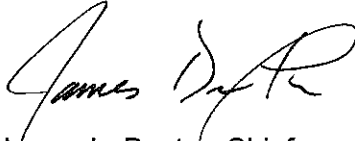
(2) That the land be dedicated as part of the State Line Trail and administered by Parks and Recreation Division.



Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



William O'Neill, Chief
Forest Resources Division



James L. Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



William E. Moritz, Ph.D.
Natural Resources Deputy



Mark H. Hoffman
Chief Administrative Officer

I approve the staff recommendations.

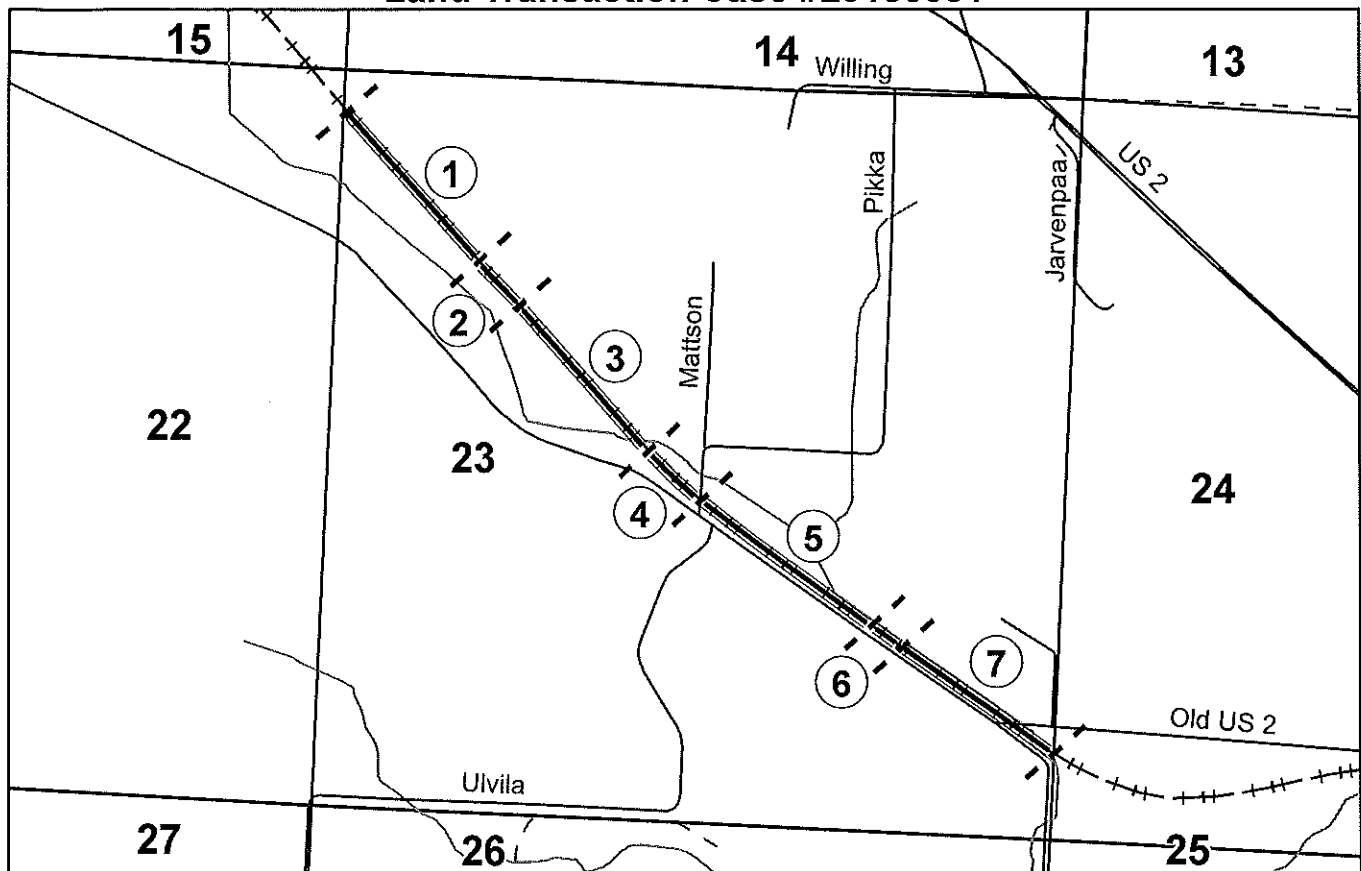
Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved

STATE TRAIL EASEMENT ACQUISITIONS

State Line Trail -- Gogebic County

Land Transaction Case #20150051



Section 23, T47N, R45W

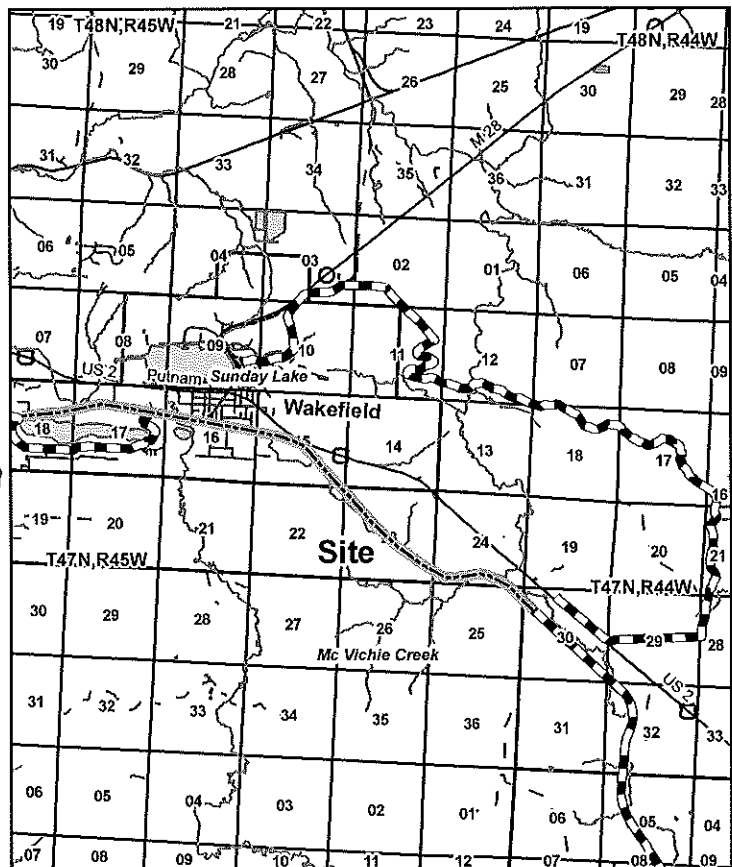
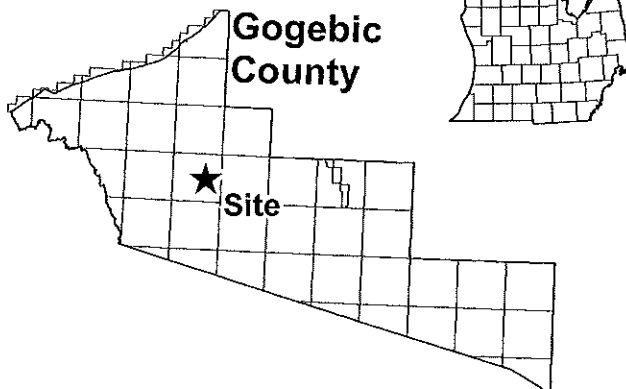
Wakefield Township

Easements to be Acquired by DNR:

1. Makela (1,485 ft.)
2. Hongisto (412 ft.)
3. Mattila (1,870 ft.)
4. Laessig (445 ft.)
5. Molinero (1,574 ft.)
6. Mattson (288 ft.)
7. Sjoblom (1,297 ft.)

State Line Trail

Proposed Trail Route



Regional Location



DNR -- Finance & Operations Division
Real Estate Services Section
08/03/2015

